

OPINION 1970

Odatria keithhornei Wells & Wellington, 1985 (Reptilia, Squamata): specific name placed on the Official List

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Reptilia; Squamata; VARANIDAE; *Varanus keithhornei*; *Varanus teriae*; lizards; monitors; Australia.

Ruling

- (1) The name *keithhornei* Wells & Wellington, 1985, as published in the binomen *Odatria keithhornei* and as defined by the holotype (catalogue no. J31566 in the Queensland Museum, collected from Buthen Buthen, Nesbit River, Cape York Peninsula by G. Czechura in 1978) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (2) The name *teriae* Sprackland, 1991, as published in the binomen *Varanus teriae*, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology (a junior objective synonym of *Odatria keithhornei* Wells & Wellington, 1985).

History of Case 3043

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Varanus teriae* Sprackland, 1991 by the suppression of the senior objective synonym *V. keithhornei* (Wells & Wellington, 1985) was received from Prof R.G. Sprackland (539 Summit Drive, Santa Cruz, California, U.S.A.), Prof Hobart M. Smith (University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, U.S.A.) and Dr P. Strimple (Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A.) on 19 December 1996. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 54: 100–103 (June 1997). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

A comment opposing the application from Prof L.B. Holthuis (*Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden, The Netherlands*), together with a reply by the authors of the application, was published in BZN 54: 250–251 (December 1997).

Further opposing comments from Drs Jeanette Covacevich & Patrick Couper (*Queensland Museum, South Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*) and from Dr Glenn M. Shea (*University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia*) were published in BZN 55: 37–39 (March 1998); from Drs T. Ziegler & W. Böhme (*Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn, Germany*) and from Mr R.T. Hoser (*Doncaster, Victoria, Australia*) were published in BZN 55: 111–114 (June 1998); and from Dr H.G. Cogger (*clo The Australian Museum, Sydney South, New South Wales, Australia*) was published in BZN 56: 272–273 (December 1999). A reply to these comments by the authors of the application was published in BZN 56: 273–274 (December 1999).

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 2000 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 54: 102. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2000 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 1: Bock

Negative votes — 19: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bouchet, Brothers, Calder, Cogger, Kerzhner, Kraus, Lamas, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Ng, Nielsen, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, Song and Štys.

No votes were received from Dupuis, Eschmeyer and Ride.

Minelli was on leave of absence.

Since there was a majority against the conservation of the junior name, the specific name of *Odatria keithhornei* Wells & Wellington, 1985 is placed on the Official List as the valid name. The specific name of *Varanus teriae* Sprackland, 1991, a junior objective synonym of *O. keithhornei*, is placed on the Official Index.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

keithhornei, *Odatria*, Wells & Wellington, 1985, A classification of the Amphibia and Reptilia of Australia. In: *Australian Journal of Herpetology, Supplementary Series*, No. 1, p. 21.
teriae, *Varanus*, Sprackland, 1991, *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum*, **30**(3): 570.